

Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

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Weekly wrap-up

State to buy abandoned rail line-doubling state's rail trail corridor

Dec. 4, 2007- Governor Mitch Daniels announced the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reached an agreement in principle to purchase more than 150 miles of abandoned railroad corridors that will nearly double rail trail corridors in the state.

"Our goal is to have a trail within 15 minutes of every Hoosier within ten years," Daniels said. "Today we have made a quantum leap forward that puts Indiana several steps closer to achieving this objective."

DNR is currently working with the owners of the former Penn Central Rail Line to purchase several segments of abandoned rail corridors. Pieces of the line are located in 39 counties throughout the state. The department's plan is to give the land to local governments and not-for-profit groups for future trail expansions. Henry County already has plans to begin developing a trail in their area.

[Read the news release.](#)

[View a map of new rail trail segments.](#)



Dec. 4, 2007— Gov. Daniels with trails advocates after he announced plans to expand the state's multi-use trail system during an event sponsored by The Greenways Foundation.

Former IU dean completes IDEM permit process review



Dec. 8, 2007— The governor with the first graduating class of the Indiana National Guard Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy.

Dec. 6, 2007- Governor Daniels received the review he requested from Jim Barnes, the former dean of the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs and former deputy administrator of EPA, regarding state and federal laws about Great Lakes water quality and the state's process to implement those laws.

"His report vindicates Indiana's staunch protection of the water quality of Lake Michigan and the people of IDEM as conscientious public servants who applied Indiana's tough environmental standards rigorously and faithfully. We'll move promptly to adopt his recommendations for process improvement," said Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Read the report.](#)

Governor appeals denial of federal assistance for north central Indiana

Dec. 7, 2007- The governor sent a letter to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) appealing a decision to deny federal assistance for Hoosiers in north central Indiana devastated by a tornado that occurred on October 18.

"Local government and voluntary agencies are doing all they can to support the people and businesses affected, but there's more to be done," said Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)



Dec. 6, 2007- The governor welcomed fourth grade students from Twin Branch Model School in Mishawaka to his office.

To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels' Web site, click [here](#).

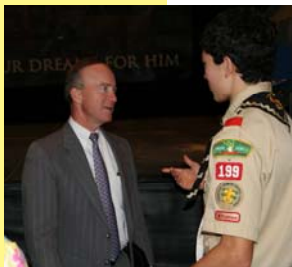
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

McJunkin Red Man Corporation

Dec. 6, 2007- McJunkin Red Man Corporation, one of North America's largest distributors of industrial pipe, valves, and oilfield supplies, announced it will relocate its Midwest distribution center to Munster, with the potential to employ as many 60 people by 2010.

The company will close its Harvey, Ill. distribution center and invest more than \$2 million to site and equip its new 100,000 square-foot center adjacent to the new Amazon.com fulfillment center.

"We are proud that McJunkin Red Man has selected Indiana for its new facility. We have worked hard to create a competitive environment that encourages businesses like McJunkin Red Man to grow in Indiana, and I know the company will be pleased with the work ethic and productivity of Hoosiers," said Governor Mitch Daniels.



Dec. 6, 2007- Gov. Daniels speaks to a Boy Scout at the Governor's Luncheon for Scouting. The annual event recognizes the impact Scouting makes in Indiana communities.



Dec. 5, 2007- Gov. Daniels talks about his plan for property tax relief with business leaders at an Executive Economic Exchange breakfast in Carmel.

[Read the news release.](#)

Nyloncraft

Dec. 3, 2007- Nyloncraft, a leading provider of plastic components to the automotive industry, announced it will consolidate its Bowling Green, Ky. manufacturing operation into its facility in Mishawaka, creating more than 45 new jobs.

The company, which manufactures components ranging from vacuum distribution systems to interior trim panels, will invest more than \$2 million into its 165,000 square-foot facility in preparation for the early 2008 consolidation.

"Decisions like the one Nyloncraft is making to continue to invest in Indiana reflects a growing confidence in the business climate in our state," said Gov. Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)

Eagle Steel Products, Inc.

Dec. 5, 2007- Eagle Steel Products, Inc., a processor and fabricator of steel products for the automotive, commercial and industrial markets, announced it will expand its operations in Jeffersonville, creating more than 25 new jobs by 2009.

The minority-owned company, which specializes in the cutting and packaging of coiled steel products, will invest more than \$8 million to double the size of its existing facility located at the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville.

"We've seen a string of jobs announcements in Clark County, and today Eagle Steel Products joins a long list of new and expanding companies in the area. It's clear that southeast Indiana has economic growth momentum, and we expect many more such announcements in the future," said Governor Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)

Heidtman Steel Products, Inc.

Dec. 7, 2007- Heidtman Steel Products, Inc., one of the nation's largest privately held steel processors and marketers, announced it will expand its steel processing operations in Butler, creating 18 new jobs.

The company, which specializes in processing and marketing flat-rolled carbon steel, will invest \$13.5 million to build and equip a 120,000 square-foot addition to its manufacturing operations, making room for a new multi-stamping, blanking and steel slitting operation.

"Decisions like the one Heidtman Steel is making to invest in its Indiana operations reflects a growing confidence in the business climate of our state," said Nathan Feltman, Secretary of Commerce and chief executive officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

[Read the news release.](#)

A look ahead...

Governor Daniels will travel to Union City, Bluffton and Fort Wayne this week.